

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00788 01 OF 02 170338Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----170358Z 073171 /14

O R 170259Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2795
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 0788

EXDIS

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, US, SF, WA
SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL: SOUTH AFRICA

1. AT CANADIAN INVITATION, WESTERN MEMBERS OF SECURITY COUNCIL (US, UK, FRANCE, FRG, CANADA) MET AT LUNCH, MARCH 16 TO DISCUSS STRATEGY FOR UPCOMING SC DEBATE ON SOUTH AFRICA. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT A SECURITY COUNCIL DECLARATION ON SOUTHERN AFRICA WAS A NOVEL AND USEFUL CHANGE FROM RHETORICAL RESOLUTIONS OF PAST. RICHARD (UK), HOWEVER, EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT A DECLARATION COULD BE DRAFTED AND AGREED UPON IN THE SHORT TIME AVAILABLE FOR PROPOSED SC MEETING.

2. US EMPHASIZED, AND OTHERS AGREED, THAT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES WAS BASIS FOR ACTION AND WOULD BE REJECTED BY AFRICANS IF THEY THOUGHT IT A SUBSTITUTE FOR ACTION. THERE
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PAGE 02 USUN N 00788 01 OF 02 170338Z

WAS NO AGREEMENT ON ACTION ITEMS, ALTHOUGH A NUMBER WERE DISCUSSED. (SEE PARAGRAPH 4 BELOW.)

3. IT WAS AGREED FOLLOWING LENGTHY DISCUSSION THAT AT BREAKFAST AMBASSADOR YOUNG IS HOSTING MARCH 17, APPEAL WOULD BE MADE BY WESTERN MEMBERS TO OTHERS PRESENT (TANZANIA, NIGERIA, ZAMBIA, BENIN, MAURITIUS, LIBYA,

AND INDIA) TO ABBREVIATE SOUTH AFRICA DEBATE TO TIMEFRAME MARCH 21-23 TO ALLOW TIME FOR DISCUSSIONS ON SC ACTION. IN ADDITION TO THIS CONSIDERATION, AMBASSADOR YOUNG WOULD STATE FRANKLY THAT WHILE USG POLICY HAS NOT YET BEEN FORMALLY ESTABLISHED, WE EXPECT IT TO BE WITHIN NEXT MONTH AND THAT, PRIOR TO RESUMPTION OF SC DEBATE ON SOUTH AFRICA, WEST WOULD SHOW ITS GOOD FAITH BY WORKING ON A SOLEMN DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND BY MAKING CONCERTED REPRESENTATIONS TO SOUTH AFRICA CONCERNING NAMIBIA.

4. SHOULD THAT TACTIC FAIL, WEST WOULD BE PREPARED TO MOVE ALONG ON DRAFTING OF A DECLARATION AT THIS TIME, POINTING OUT TO AFRICANS, HOWEVER, THAT WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO ACCEPT UNENFORCEABLE INFLAMMATORY RESOLUTIONS. FURTHER, WE MIGHT INDICATE TO AFRICANS THAT WESTERN MEMBERS ARE PREPARED TO MAKE DEMARCHE TO SOUTH AFRICANS URGING A SOLUTION ON NAMIBIA ALONG LINES OF SC RES 385. ANOTHER PART OF PACKAGE WOULD BE EXPANSION OF RHODESIAN SANCTIONS AT MARCH 18 SC DEBATE. US MIGHT INDICATE THAT IT WOULD BE PREPARED TO ATTEND AND POSSIBLY CONTRIBUTE TO MAPUTO CONFERENCE. (UK IS VIGOROUSLY OPPOSED AND IS LOBBYING CANADIANS NOT TO ATTEND.) FRANCE SUGGESTED THAT ANOTHER ELEMENT WHICH COULD BE OFFERED WOULD BE FOR WESTERN MEMBERS TO MAKE DECLARATION INDEPENDENT OF SC CONCERNING WILLINGNESS TO OBSERVE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA, SHOULD DEMARCHE FAIL. (THIS WAS OBVIOUSLY FRENCH EFFORT TO AVOID A MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO AND IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THEY WOULD MAKE THEIR EMBARGO COMPREHENSIVE. IN FACT, FRENCH MISOFF LATER SAID PRIVATELY THAT FRANCE WISHED CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 USUN N 00788 01 OF 02 170338Z

TO EXCLUDE AT VERY LEAST PROHIBITION OF NAVAL DELIVERIES ALREADY CONTRACTED FOR.) WESTERN MEMBERS ALSO WOULD NOTE THAT THEY WOULD MAKE APPROACH TO SOUTH AFRICA ON NAMIBIA PRIOR TO MAPUTO CONFERENCE. RICHARD (UK) SUGGESTED THAT SOME WAY BE FOUND TO DISTINGUISH PROPOSED NAMIBIA DEMARCHE FROM NUMEROUS PREVIOUS EFFORTS. THOUGHT MIGHT BE GIVEN TO PERM REPS FROM NEW YORK FLYING TO CAPETOWN FOR DEMARCHE TO DRAMATIZE ITS NATURE. DISCUSSION OF WHAT MIGHT BE DONE ON APARTHEID WAS LIMITED TO BRITISH STATEMENT OF CONTINUED RESERVATIONS ON SWEDISH PROPOSAL.

5. DURING COURSE OF DISCUSSION, VON WECHMAR (FRG) RELATED THAT INDIAN PERM REP JAIPAL HAD PROPOSED THAT AN "INTERNATIONAL TRUST" OF UN MEMBERS SHOULD BE MANDATED BY SC TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATION AND, OVER PERIOD OF TWO TO THREE YEARS, TRANSFORMATION OF NAMIBIA TO INDEPENDENCE. WESTERN SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS WOULD BE PART OF "TRUST" AND COULD CONSTITUTE A CONTACT GROUP. THE CHAIRMAN COULD BE SOMEONE LIKE SWEDEN. JAIPAL

HAD ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE HARRIMAN DRAFT RESOLUTIONS MAKE SUCH AN INITIATIVE VERY DIFFICULT AND, AT PRC-HOSTED LUNCHEON MARCH 15 FOR NON-PERMANENT SC MEMBERS, RAMPHUL (MAURITIUS) AND KIKHIA (LIBYA) REPORTEDLY AGREED.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 0788

EXDIS

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

6. FRANCE AND UK EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER TITLE OF AGENDA ITEM FOR NEXT WEEK'S DEBATE, PREFERRING ITS CHANGE TO "LETTER FROM CHAIRMAN OF AFRICAN GROUP...CONCERNING 'QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICA'".

7. IN DISCUSSION OF TIMING OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEBATE, AMBASSADOR YOUNG SUGGESTED THAT BENIN MATTER MIGHT BE HANDLED MARCH 24-25 AND MIDDLE EAST MARCH 28-29. HE SET FORTH VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE MORE DESIRABLE TO HAVE THE DEBATE SEPARATED BY AS MUCH TIME AS POSSIBLE FROM ISRAELI ELECTIONS; FURTHER, TELESOPING THE DEBATE INTO SHORT PERIOD PRIOR TO SYG'S DEPARTURE FOR CYPRUS TALKS IN VIENNA WOULD REDUCE POSSIBILITY OF LONG, UNHELPFUL DEBATE. RICHARD AND BARTON (CANADA) SAID THAT EGYPTIAN PERM REP MEGUID EXPRESSED HIS PREFERENCE FOR MIDDLE EAST TO BE HANDLED DURING MARCH.

8. WESTERN MISSION STAFF MEMBERS ARE TO MEET AT END OF
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PAGE 02 USUN N 00788 02 OF 02 170343Z

MARCH 16 TO DISCUSS ELEMENTS FOR DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.
THE AIM IS TO WORK OUT THE IDEAS JOINTLY.

9. FRANCE, FRG, AND CANADA ARE TO COMMENT TO US MARCH 21
CONCERNING FIVE-POWER APPROACH ON NAMIBIA (STATE 57868,
NOTAL). THE DELAY RESULTS FROM THE ABSENCE OF GERMAN
FOREIGN MINISTER FROM BONN.

10. WE HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT AT MEETING OF "NON-ALIGNED"
AND OTHERS EARLIER MARCH 16, BENIN, LIBYA, MAURITIUS,
PANAMA, ROMANIA, AND PAKISTAN AGREED TO CO-SPONSOR ALL
FOUR HARRIMAN DRAFTS. INDIA HAS AGREED TO AD REFERENDUM,
AND VENEZUELA REPORTEDLY CAN CO-SPONSOR TWO OF THEM. IN A
SEPARATE CONVERSATION, SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY
DO NOT INTEND TO PARTICIPATE IN NEXT WEEK'S DEBATE.
YOUNG

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